

The Skraeling Atching Chronicle

A NEW KNIGHT OF EALDORMERE

By Chronicle Staff

It has been more than 10 years since a Skrael has been knighted.

On September 25th, at the Coronation of Their Majesties Etain and Valfreya, another Skrael joined the ranks of the Chivalry when The Honourable Lord Baldric Leeman of Newcastle Emlyn (now Sir Baldric) was elevated into the Order.

It was one of the last acts in the reign of King Quilliam and Queen Dagmar, and represented the culmination of many years of training, instructing and hard work by Sir Baldric.

Sir Baldric was sung into court with “Born on the List Field”. With Lady Brayla by his side, and his children escorting him to the Thrones bearing his mighty sword, those gathered heard tell of the adventures of a young teen Baldric and his SCA family.

They heard of the knightly qualities of Sir Baldric, from the support he has provided to a newcomer, to the inspiration and leadership he has provided on and off the field.

Most touchingly, they heard how



Lord Baldric's sons present their father's sword to the King during Baldric's elevation ceremony at Fall Coronation

proud Mistress Fiona would be of Sir Baldric on this important day; not just of his becoming a knight, but of the man that he has become since the days of a 13-year-old Baldric serving as her page.

Speaking what Mistress Fiona would have said could she have been there that day, Master Hector said, “Fiona would have the Knowne World understand how proud this day is, that she might know that this was her Peer!”

Photo courtesy of Lord Eirik Andersen

Master Hector then asked that, when the deeds of this day are recorded, that it be known that Dame TSivia was joined by Mistress Fiona in proxy.

A video of Sir Baldric's knighting has been posted to YouTube by His Excellency Baron Richard Larmer.

It can be viewed by going to YouTube (www.youtube.com), and searching for Baldric and Ealdormere.

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BARONIAL OFFICERS

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A&S 50 Coordinator

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Youth Representative

Lady Asha

UPCOMING GATHERINGS IN THE BARONY

Practices and Meetings

Please contact the local group to confirm details about specific scheduled gatherings.

Harrowgate Heath

Armoured Combat Practice
Thursdays at 7 pm

Archery

Schedule varies month to month

Canton Meetings

First Sunday of the month

A&S Days

Schedule varies month to month

Greyfells

Canton Meetings
Meetings (which often include A&S and other activities) are held from 7:00 to 9:30 pm on Tuesdays each week.

Rapier Practice

Tuesdays at 7 pm

Caldrithig

Dance Practice
Wednesdays at 7 pm

Armoured Combat Practice

Wednesdays at 8 pm

Rapier Practice

Thursdays at 8 pm

Choir Practice

Sundays at 1:30 pm

Canton Meetings

Second and fourth Sunday's of the month at 4 pm

Instrumental Practices

To start soon

Tor Brant

Gatherings vary from month to month.

If you are interested in attending Tor Brant scheduled activities, please contact the group to confirm their next scheduled activity.

LOCAL SENESCHALS

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FROM THE QUILL OF THEIR EXCELLENCIES OF SKRAELING ALTHING

Greetings unto the populace of Skraeling Althing, and gentle readers of the Chronicle, from your giving Baron Giovanni and generous Baroness Lucia.

We are endowed by Their Majesties with the right and duty to recognize deserving gentiles of our Barony at our pleasure. The awards and orders, created by our predecessors, are dear to our hearts. We strive to maintain a high standard when granting these awards, to preserve the significance of receiving them.

While we frequently receive recommendations from canton and baronial officers, they may not be aware of everything that is happening in your local group. The populace is the key to realizing the award system's fullest potential.

To make a recommendation, send us an email directly (skraeling.althing@gmail.com) with the recipient's full SCA name, the award you are recommending them for and the reasons you are pleased to be making the recommendation.

All additional information is welcome, such as a link to a picture of the individual, or their work or information about their persona or preferred activities. If you are not

sure what award fits, tell us that in your letter.

Our Baronial Pursuivant, Lady Gina Dragoni, maintains records of all Baronial Awards given and makes sure they are included in the Kingdom Order of Precedence (OP).

While we're not opposed to giving the same award multiple times in exceptional cases, we recommend that you check the OP to see if your intended recipient already has that award, so that you can possibly recommend them for something else, or make a case for awarding a second one.

Once we have decided to give an award, we work with our Baronial Signet, Lady Marguerite Gingraix, to ensure that the award can be given with an original scroll, as is our tradition.

To give it a personalized touch, we also try to match the best scribe with the intended recipient. For this reason, we value all input about possible recipients.

We receive recommendations all year round, but we try to plan our courts so that scrolls can be given to the recipients in their home Canton, hopefully at an event they will be guaranteed to attend.

Timing isn't the only reason why we might not be able to give a particular award at a given Court as we are subject to the whims of the Crown and must plan our Courts to best serve them. We also like to keep our Courts short, unlike this letter.

In your service,

Baron Giovanni and Baroness Lucia

UPCOMING EVENTS

In Skraeling Althing

February 26 – Practicum
Hosted by the Canton of Caldriithig (Ottawa, ON)

Out of Barony

November 13 - Kingdom Arts and Sciences
Hosted by the Barony of Rising Waters (Burlington, ON)

January 15 - Kingdom 12th Night
Hosted by the Barony of Rising Waters (Stevensville, ON)

January 29 - Tournoi du Couer de Glace
Hosted by the Incipient Shire of Bastille du Lac (Belleville, ON)

March 5 - Winter War XIII
Hosted by the Shire of Trinovantia Nova (St. Thomas, ON)

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NOT SO SUPER SECRET ANYMORE...

By Chronicle Staff

Rumour has it that the plot was hatched over lunch by two friends at work in Caldrithig.

Since then, the Super Secret Dagmar Fan Club (SSDFC) has spread across Ealdormere, and even has supporters from other Kingdoms.

While nobody we talked to would take responsibility for the plot, officials have identified Lady Eluned ferch Angor and Lady Constance of Caldrithig as suspects.

The fan club was launched to support the reign of Their Majesties King Quilliam and Queen Dagmar.

The goal was to increase the resources of Their Royal Majesties to visit the far reaches of their lands and beyond our borders to defend the North.

Over the course of their reign, the SSDFC raised just under \$1,350 for the royal travel fund.

Inside sources, who spoke to The Chronicle on the condition of anonymity, said "We just wanted to do something fun at Coronation, because we love Dagmar!"

Fundraising activities arranged by the SSDFC included the sale of small membership badges, various raffles and silent auc-



Lady Constance and Lady Eluned presenting the proceeds of the first Super Secret Dagmar Fan Club activities at Spring Coronation.

Photo courtesy of Lord Dafydd ap Alan

tions, and tournaments for both armoured and rapier combatants. The Facebook group now has over 160 members.

The work of the SSDFC had a major impact on the reign of Quilliam and Dagmar.

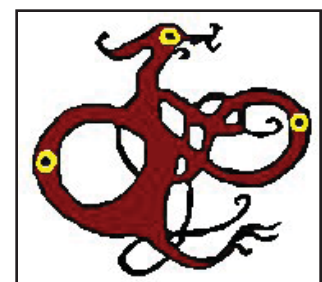
"Thinking about the Super Secret Dagmar Fan Club is hard to do without smiling," said Her Excellency Dagmar Halvdan. "The funds they have raised have really helped."

"On the emotional level – I felt their support in everything I tried to do. I was able to be in front of so many people, to be the Queen for Ealdormere, due to in large part the love and support given through the SSDFC. They let me know that

they thought we would do a good job, so obviously we had to."

Now that the reign of Quilliam and Dagmar has come to an end, the work of the SSDFC is done ... for now).

But the impact and benefits of their work could be seen across the Kingdom in the joy and fun the fan club brought to events, and the support they gave to the Kingdom and our King and Queen.



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THE ORIGINS OF FEAST OF THE HARE

By Dame TSivia bas Tamara
v'Amberview

Back in the mists of time when rocks were still cooling (1977), an intrepid group traveled from Toronto for a long weekend in Ottawa to introduce the city to the SCA.

Included were the newly crowned Prince Finnvarr, Lady Bolverk, Mistress Gillian d'Uriel (then Olafsdottir), and myself.

Less than three months later, off I moved to start the Canton of Skraeling Althing. The first "come meet the SCA" meeting at my apartment in Sandy Hill welcomed nearly 50 people.

As (then) Prince Finnvarr rightly pointed out, a group isn't a group until it puts on its first event.

Approximately a year after Skraels started to meet and hold fight practice, a full-day event and feast was set up for a local community centre in town.

One of the biggest tasks was finding a name for the event, and a play on words title was chosen.

At the time, there was a group in Toronto (where Skeldergate currently sits), called "Noerlanda". This group sponsored a yearly event called the "Feast of the Bear" (this name will be familiar to many, as the event name was revived many

years later by Eoforwic).

Given that this was Skraeling Althing, featuring the infamous "Bunny Fru-Fru" hare on its arms (from a children's punny story), we decided to name this first event the "Feast of the HARE" as a nod to the Noerlanda event.

The first Feast of the Hare was small: approximately 25 sat feast including some visitors from both the Toronto and Hamilton areas. It was a learning experience for all in the fledgling Canton (for instance: cooking the feast for an event in a bachelor apartment which is not near the site is a dad idea!), but a good time was had by all.

The Feast of the Hare has gone through many permutations and changes over time: it has focused on fighting, the gentle arts, or on fenc-

ing; it has featured classes, or arts and sciences displays; it has had first-rate bardic performances, fire-jugglers, and near eastern dancers, and it has always hosted the court of the Baron and Baroness of the Barony of Skraeling Althing for their annual taxes.

And so the Feast of the Hare continues as one of the Kingdom of Ealdormere's longest continually-running events, with this November being Feast of the Hare XXXI.



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Questions or concerns may be

directed to the Baronial Chronicler, [Lord Dafydd ap Alan](#).

Issues of the Chronicle are posted to the Skraeling Althing web site. You can subscribe to the Chronicle by e-mailing the Chronicler.

The Chronicle also has a Facebook page. You can follow news about the Chronicle, and be notified when new issues are available, by following the Skraeling Althing Chronicle on Facebook.



DEMONSTRATING THE SCA IN THE "KINGDOM OF OSGOODE"

By Lady Thora Volundsdottir

What a fun weekend this year's Osgoode Medieval Festival was!

They decided to contain the festival in one location which was a nice change, allowing for everyone to be close to each other, instead of being spread across the entire town.

Even though it was fun last year taking a horse ride to all the other sites, being able to just walk a few feet to the next activity was great too.

There were so many wonderful and interesting demonstrations this year from so many different groups around the city.

We had a fabulous turn out for the armoured combat demonstration this year with our members coming out to show off to the populace. And if I must say so the audience loved them all.

Several of the fighters took turns talking to the audience about what it was they were doing during the demonstration.

The rapier fighters were also able to go on the field and show off their talents in the fine art of blade work. Mind you, as the day wore on the

SCA CENSUS DEADLINE IS APPROACHING

The SCA is looking for your thoughts on the society and our hobby.

Running until December, the SCA is asking all members, non-members and even people who used to be active but have stopped, to participate in an online SCA census.

The goal is to get a better understanding of the people who are part of the SCA, what they like and don't like about the hobby, and where they would like to see the society go in the future. And, if you know anyone who has stopped participating, encourage them to fill it

heat did become pretty intense and I was glad that I didn't have any extra armour on.

It was the hottest weekend of the summer so far and everyone was definitely feeling it but they were drinking a lot of water which as a good thing.

Our local dance group came out as well and displayed several dances for the populace which was a great crowd pleasure.

It's always fun to watch them dance and I find myself wanting to do more than toe-tap to the music after a song or two.

out too. Understanding why former SCAdian's no longer come out is just as important as understanding why current participants do.

As of October 1st, they have received 284 submissions from Ealdormere, but there's still time to have your say.

All you have to do is go to www.sca.org and click on the link to the Census on the front page. You can also print out a hard copy and send it in by mail.

So fill it out, and help guide the future of the society.

There were also two tents with several interesting items and information about the SCA in the merchants area, with many members coming out to participate and talk to the crowds.

As always, the hat display where people could try on different hats was a crowd pleaser and the wonderful seating area for people to sit and relax was very much appreciated too.

Every time I went by the tents they were always busy with people looking and asking questions.

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AVELYN'S BOOK NOOK

By Lady Avelyn Wexcombe of Great Bedwyn

"A Distant Mirror: The Calamitous 14th Century"

Written by Barbara W. Tuchman

If you're like me you've wondered how to take on learning about that all-important war of the Middle Ages, the Hundred Years War. Perhaps you're developing a persona from the time, and need a primer.

If that's the case, I highly recommend picking up a copy of Barbara Tuchman's landmark volume on the subject.

Not only is this award-winning author world-renowned for her research and historical interpretations, she's blessed with what I think is a rare quality for this genre of non-fiction authors: she writes in an easy-to-read, interesting way.

Tuchman uses an approach to her narrative which is fairly original, from what I've seen so far. Instead of drawling on and on across pages with content so dry the paper is brittle, she uses the ingenious method of setting her "story" around a key French historical figure of the time, [Enguerrand de Coucy](#).

Coucy is described as a nobleman in the classic sense: a fine diplomat and tactician, a wooer of rulers, a war hero, a devoted father, a patriot. She colours writing about him in

such a way that you, as the reader, are almost saddened that in our time you will never have a chance to meet this gentleman.

In "A Distant Mirror" Tuchman cleverly leads us on a journey of de Coucy's life from his abruptly ended childhood to his final days, rotting in a Turkish prison.

Remarkably, while following along on this journey as de Coucy's companion, the reader experiences the sights, smells, sounds and vivid imagery of what the sometimes brilliant, sometimes brutal life of fourteenth century France was like during this war-torn era. And in doing so, it becomes easy to absorb the history of the time like no encyclopaedia could deliver.

If you're at all interested in the struggles between France and its world neighbours during this time of strife, and how the papal schism in the church had such a tremendous impact, pick up a copy of "A Distant Mirror".

The paperback is likely available at your local book store, and a preview copy is available through [Google Books](#). No doubt the local library has several editions as well.

Be ready to curl up for a while... it took me a few months to get through it all. But it was a hell of a trip. ([Ballantine Books, 1987](#))

COURT REPORT

The following awards have been given out to members of Skraeling Althing at recent events both in the Barony and at outside events. Wassail to all of the recipients!

Trillium War

Award of Arms
Asha Maunusdottir

Pennsic

On the Battlefield —
Scarlet Banner
Michael of Easterbrook

Kingdom court —
Order of the Laurel
Rozalynd of Thornabee on Tees

Court Baroness
Ælfwyn et Langanwuda

Baronial Court —
Bunny tails
Ernst Brock
Margaret Brock
Belinda Brock
Hans Brock

Baron's Howe

Award of the Orion
Baron Giovanni

Coronation

Order of the Chivalry
Baldric Leeman of Newcastle
Emlyn

Award of Arms
Blythe of the Mountain

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TRILLIUM WAR PHOTOS



Left: The armed might of the Barony of Skraeling Althing at Trillium War.

Also present but not in this photo was Sir Menken Brechen. His squire, Baron Brand, is standing in for him (wearing the helm).

Photo courtesy of Lady Augusta of Ben Dunfirth

Right: His Majesty Quilliam is presenting THL Wilhelm von Pottruff with his Provost scarf.

The rank of Provost is the second highest rank within the Ealdormere Academy of Defence (rapier).

Photo courtesy of Lord Alexander



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PENNSIC PHOTOS

Photos on this page courtesy of Lord Dafydd ap Alan



Above - Skraeling Althing marches to the Opening Ceremonies during Pennsic.



Above - His Royal Majesty Quilliam inspires the troops.



Below - Ealdormere's army during the field battle. Some of the Skrael fighters can be seen in the middle of the line.

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PENNSIC PHOTOS - CONTINUED



Top Left: Their Royal Majesties Quilliam and Dagmar speak with Baroness Rozalynd during her vigil at Pennsic. **Photo courtesy of Lord Alexander.**

Middle Left: His Excellency Sir Nigel speaks on behalf of Baroness Rozalynd at her Laureling ceremony. **Photo courtesy of Lord Dafydd ap Alan.**

Bottom Left: Their Royal Majesties presenting a coronet to the newly elevated Baroness Ælfwyn. **Photo courtesy of Lord Dafydd ap Alan.**

Top Right: THL Baldric hugs his boys after being put on vigil for Knighthood on the battlefield. **Photo courtesy of Lord Dafydd ap Alan**

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FALL CORONATION PHOTOS

Bottom Left: His Royal Majesty Etain crowns his Queen, Valfreya, during their coronation ceremony. **Photo courtesy of Lord Dafydd ap Alan.**

Bottom Right: Their Royal Majesties Etain and Valfreya, are presented to their populace. **Photo courtesy of Lord Alexander**



Left: Her Excellency Lucia accepting an Award of Arms on behalf of Blythe of the Mountain, who was not in attendance. **Photo courtesy of Lord Dafydd ap Alan**



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DEMONSTRATING THE SCA ... CONTINUED

The wonderful display done by THL Edhan, with his well known orange and white striped tent for the archery, added a great touch of medieval atmosphere.

Along with the wonderful display of medieval items and camping implements, Edhan and several other archers who had come out for the weekend were definitely kept busy.

There were several other activities going on during the day by several of our members, for example Lady Skye and her dance troupe gave a exceptional belly dancing show for the audience even out in that heat.

Yousef and his lovely lady were out merchanting their wares in the booth

beside me which was great fun.

They also had several demonstrations with their students from the chivalrous sword handling school (I must stop smithing next time to go and watch them), plus many others which are too numerous to add here.

I was out again this year with my portable forge and had a great time as usual blacksmithing and talking to the crowd.

This is one of my favourite events in the summer now. I'm happy that it's so close to Ottawa because it's a great opportunity for the Barony to show the mundane world what we are all about with so many different activities too.



THL Edhan explains the archery demonstration at the 2010 Kingdom of Osgoode Medieval Festival in July. **Photo courtesy of David MacKinnon**

DANCE DOWN TO VEST YORVIK

Interested in renaissance culture and dance?

Grab your calendars and book February 19, 2011 for Step Spritely, Ealdormere's premier dance event, hosted by Vest Yorvik.

The site is in Mississauga, 15 minutes west of Toronto. (26 Stavebank, at the QEW and Hwy 10; steps from the Port Credit GO station.)

Highlights Include:

- * A full day of dance classes for everyone, from beginner to advanced plus music classes
- * An authentic Italian Renaissance Feast by THL Aislinne
- * Garb is optional during the day and everyone is encouraged to be 'in persona' in the evening
- * Opportunities to play in a renaissance music pickup band
- * A renaissance ball and dancing to the wee hours of the morning

Email stuart@steps.gyges.org for information, to make suggestions, teach or to help out.

Please visit <http://steps.gyges.org> often for updates and information as the date draws nearer.